

Kessler, Ellen

From: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 3:10 PM
To: Lilley, Bliss
Cc: Collins, Carly
Subject: FW: capx2020 lacrosse route
Attachments: DSCN0750.JPG

-----Original Message-----

From: jgilmer2@mac.com [mailto:jgilmer2@mac.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2009 9:30 AM
To: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC
Subject: capx2020 lacrosse route

Dear Ms. Strength:

My name is James Gilmer and I am writing you today to let you know of my very strong opposition to this project.

I-123-003 | The CapX2020 La Crosse ultra high voltage power line will cause environmental harm -- including visual impacts in scenic corridors, health risks due to electro-magnetic fields, decline in property values, loss of prime agricultural land, risks to rare and endangered species, fragmentation of habitat in a national wildlife refuge, and bird mortality along the Mississippi Flyway.

I live in tiny Sather Valley. The proposed route will cut the valley in two and will pass directly thru my farm. I hope you will take a moment and look at the photo I have attached. This photo overlooks my farm. If the towers are placed where proposed they will sit less than 500 feet from where my wife is sitting.

My son planned to build here when he gets out of the Air Force and already has the permits. His home would sit directly beneath the line. I had hoped to see Grandchildren living there some day and walking the road to the school bus. Clearly if this project comes to pass that wont occur. How will I be compensated for this type of loss.? How do you put a dollar value on that?

I have searched all my life for this spot and invested my life savings to purchase it. How will I get that investment back? Who will buy it?

I-123-001 | Where do I go? My house sits 300 feet from where the line is to cross. I have buried three
I-123-002 | parents who all died due to one form of cancer or another. What are my health risks if I stay?

I hope with all my heart you try to put yourself in my place and then remember this scenario is identical to hundreds if not thousands of other families just like mine.

Please don't let this nightmare come to pass.

Sincerely yours,

James Gilmer
245 Sather Valley road
Houston Mn 55943

I-123-001

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to residential land use will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments will be solicited after its publication.

I-123-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-123-003

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line, potential impacts to health and safety with regard to EMF, potential socioeconomic impacts to property values, potential impacts to agricultural resources, and potential impacts to wildlife, particularly federal and state regulated species will all be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

